

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A hair curling iron and shaping tool comprising:

a handle;

a first elongated member connected with said handle and having a first surface with a first profile;

a first heating element for heating the first elongated member;

a second elongated member pivotally connected relative to said first elongated member, said second elongated member including:

a second surface for mating with said first surface in order to shape hair placed therebetween in a predetermined manner defined by the first and second surfaces, said second surface having a profile complementary to the profile of said first surface, and

a curved surface;

a second heating element for heating the second elongated member;

a curved elongated member pivotally connected relative to said second elongated member for engaging with the curved surface of said second elongated member;

a first lever for actuating said curved elongated member to pivot said curved elongated member away from said second elongated member; and

a second lever for actuating said second elongated member to pivot said second elongated member ~~and said curved elongated member together~~ away from said first elongated member and for simultaneously engaging said first lever to pivot said curved elongated member together with said second elongated member away from said first elongated member.

2. (Currently Amended) A hair curling iron and shaping tool ~~according to claim 1, wherein~~ comprising:

a handle;

a first elongated member connected with said handle and having a first surface with a first profile;

a first heating element for heating the first elongated member;

a second elongated member pivotally connected relative to said first elongated member, said second elongated member including:

a second surface for mating with said first surface in order to shape hair placed therebetween in a predetermined manner defined by the first and second surfaces, said second surface having a profile complementary to the profile of said first surface, and

a curved surface;

a second heating element for heating the second elongated member;

a curved elongated member pivotally connected relative to said second elongated member for engaging with the curved surface of said second elongated member;

a first lever for actuating said curved elongated member to pivot said curved elongated member away from said second elongated member;

a second lever for actuating said second elongated member to pivot said second elongated member and said curved elongated member together away from said first elongated member; and

said second lever is positioned on top of said first lever.

3. (Original) A hair curling iron and shaping tool according to claim 1, wherein said first lever is fixedly connected with said curved elongated member and said second lever is fixedly connected with said second elongated member.

4. (Currently Amended) A hair curling iron and shaping tool according to claim 1, wherein comprising:

a handle;

a first elongated member connected with said handle and having a first surface with a first profile;

a first heating element for heating the first elongated member;

a second elongated member pivotally connected relative to said first elongated member, said second elongated member including:

a second surface for mating with said first surface in order to shape hair placed therebetween in a predetermined manner defined by the first and second surfaces, said second surface having a profile complementary to the profile of said first surface, and

a curved surface;

a second heating element for heating the second elongated member;

a curved elongated member pivotally connected relative to said second elongated member for engaging with the curved surface of said second elongated member;

a first lever for actuating said curved elongated member to pivot said curved elongated member away from said second elongated member;

a second lever for actuating said second elongated member to pivot said second elongated member and said curved elongated member together away from said first elongated member; and

said first and second levers are pivotally mounted relative to said housing along a common axis.

5. (Currently Amended) A hair curling iron and shaping tool according to claim 1, wherein comprising:

a handle;

a first elongated member connected with said handle and having a first surface with a first profile;

a first heating element for heating the first elongated member;

a second elongated member pivotally connected relative to said first elongated member, said second elongated member including:

a second surface for mating with said first surface in order to shape hair placed therebetween in a predetermined manner defined by the first and second surfaces, said second surface having a profile complementary to the profile of said first surface, and

a curved surface;

a second heating element for heating the second elongated member;

a curved elongated member pivotally connected relative to said second elongated member for engaging with the curved surface of said second elongated member;

a first lever for actuating said curved elongated member to pivot said curved elongated member away from said second elongated member;

a second lever for actuating said second elongated member to pivot said second elongated member and said curved elongated member together away from said first elongated member; and

the first and second levers each having opposite downwardly extending ears, each ear having an opening therein, and all of the openings of said ears being in axial alignment for receiving a pivot pin arrangement to pivotally fix the first and second levers relative to said housing.

6. (Currently Amended) A hair curling iron and shaping tool ~~according to claim 1, wherein~~ comprising:

a handle;

a first elongated member connected with said handle and having a first surface with a first profile;

a first heating element for heating the first elongated member;

a second elongated member pivotally connected relative to said first elongated member, said second elongated member

including:

a second surface for mating with said first surface in order to shape hair placed therebetween in a predetermined manner defined by the first and second surfaces, said second surface having a profile complementary to the profile of said first surface, and

a curved surface;

a second heating element for heating the second elongated member;

a curved elongated member pivotally connected relative to said second elongated member for engaging with the curved surface of said second elongated member;

a first lever for actuating said curved elongated member to pivot said curved elongated member away from said second elongated member;

a second lever for actuating said second elongated member to pivot said second elongated member and said curved elongated member together away from said first elongated member; and

said second lever includes an opening therein, and said first lever extends through said opening to a position below said second lever.

7. (Original) A hair curling iron and shaping tool according to claim 1, wherein said first lever and second lever each have a

free end with a head thereon for actuation by a user.

8. (Currently Amended) A hair curling iron and shaping tool according to claim 7, ~~further including~~ comprising:

a handle;

a first elongated member connected with said handle and having a first surface with a first profile;

a first heating element for heating the first elongated member;

a second elongated member pivotally connected relative to said first elongated member, said second elongated member including:

a second surface for mating with said first surface in order to shape hair placed therebetween in a predetermined manner defined by the first and second surfaces, said second surface having a profile complementary to the profile of said first surface, and

a curved surface;

a second heating element for heating the second elongated member;

a curved elongated member pivotally connected relative to said second elongated member for engaging with the curved surface of said second elongated member;

a first lever for actuating said curved elongated member to

pivot said curved elongated member away from said second elongated member;

a second lever for actuating said second elongated member to pivot said second elongated member and said curved elongated member together away from said first elongated member;

said first lever and second lever each have a free end with a head thereon for actuation by a user; and

an arrangement for selectively connecting and disconnecting said heads together.

9. (Original) A hair curling iron and shaping tool according to claim 8, wherein said arrangement includes a recess in each head, said recesses being in alignment when said first and second levers are in a neutral position, and a button slidable in one of said recesses and adapted to slide partially into the other recess for connecting said heads together.

10. (Original) A hair curling iron and shaping tool according to claim 1, further including a spring arrangement fixed relative to said handle for normally biasing said first and second levers away from said handle such that said curved elongated member is normally seated on the curved surface of the second elongated member and the second surface of the second elongated member is

normally seated on the first surface of the first elongated member.

11. (Original) A hair curling iron and shaping tool according to claim 1, wherein the first and second elongated members each have a generally semi-cylindrical shape, and said curved elongated member includes an elongated plate having a transverse curvature.

12. (Original) A hair curling iron and shaping tool according to claim 1, wherein said first and second surfaces are each flat for straightening hair placed therebetween.

13. (Original) A hair curling iron and shaping tool according to claim 1, wherein said first and second surfaces each have a wave-like profile for waving hair placed therebetween.

14. (Original) A hair curling iron and shaping tool according to claim 1, wherein said first and second surfaces each have a zig-zag profile for crimping hair placed therebetween.

15. (New) A hair curling iron/straightener according to claim 1, further comprising an arrangement for selectively connecting and disconnecting said first and second levers together.